



# HealthChoice

**Tricia Roddy, Director**  
**Office of Innovation, Research, and Development**

September 26, 2019

# History of HealthChoice

---

- Established July 1, 1997
- Guiding Principles:
  - Provide a patient-focused system with a medical home for all enrollees;
  - Provide comprehensive, prevention-oriented systems of care;
  - Build upon the strengths of the Maryland healthcare system;
  - Achieve better value and predictability for State expenditures; and
  - Hold MCOs accountable for high quality of care.
- The program continues to operate with its key, fundamental design features still in place.

# HealthChoice Enrollment

---

- Total enrollment grew from 312,009 Marylanders in July 30, 1998, – (about six percent of the state population) to 1,193,972 Marylanders as of September 13, 2019 – (about 20 percent of the State population).
- Demographic changes
  - HealthChoice population has undergone dramatic changes since 1997 – largely driven by the increase in the adolescent population resulting from MCHP expansion and the adult population resulting from the expansion of Medicaid eligibility to adults under the age of 65 years with incomes up to 138% of the FPL.

# Managed Care Organizations

---

- HealthChoice launched with six MCOs, gradually losing and gaining MCOs throughout the years – adding MCOs in CY 2013, 2014, and 2017. Currently, there are nine participating MCOs – Aetna Better Health being the newest.
- The MCOs are diverse
  - Staff and Network Model Mix
  - Provider sponsored
  - Clinic-based
  - Hospital Owned
- MCO size ranges from 26,119 HealthChoice Recipients to 300,170 recipients.

# HealthChoice Results

---

- Quality: HealthChoice frequently performs above the national HEDIS® mean across measure areas including child health, access to prenatal care, cancer screening and diabetes.
- Savings: HealthChoice savings have funded significant innovative programs and coverage expansions. Some highlights:
  - Family Planning Program (2005);
  - Primary Adult Care (2006); and
  - *Current waiver period:* Institutions for Mental Disease exclusion waiver, Former Foster and Adult Dental, Community Health Pilots, National Diabetes Prevention Program.